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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH : Deputy Director (Plans)
Deputy Director (Support)

SUBJECT : Blanket Waivers

REFERENCE : IG Survey of the Office of the Comptroller,
20 October 1954, (TS #103086)

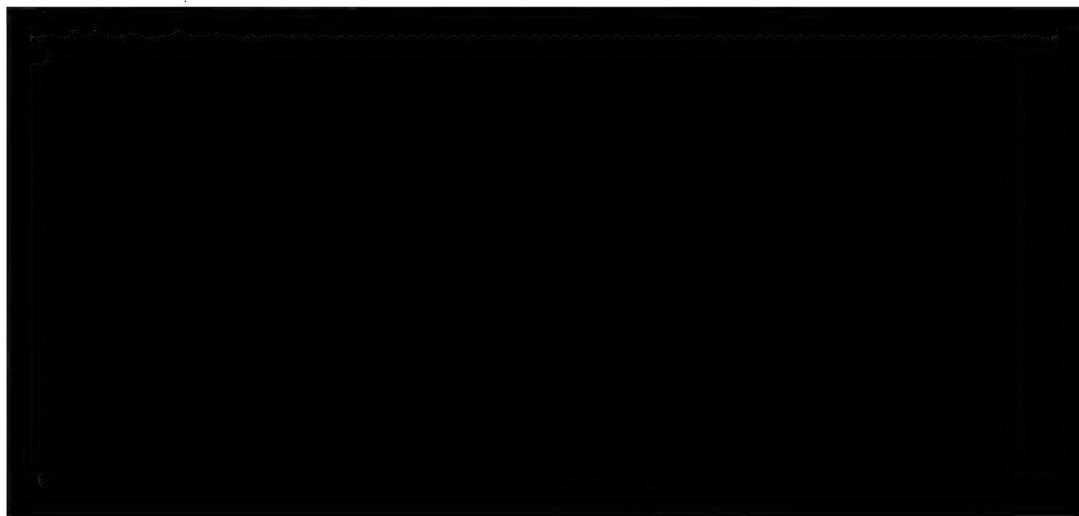
1. This memorandum contains a recommendation submitted for DCI approval. Such recommendation is contained in paragraph 6.

2. PROBLEM:

The Inspector General, after surveying the Office of the Comptroller, recommended the appointment of a joint committee by the DD/P and DD/E, to study the problems of projects given blanket waivers and to make appropriate recommendations to the Director.

This is the Committee's unanimous report.

3. FINDINGS OF FACT:



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4. DISCUSSION

The support components of the Agency are responsible to the Director for ensuring proper fiscal and other administrative controls. They are also responsible, as their designation implies, for supporting operational activity through providing "know-how" in specialized fields within their competence.

The general tenor of the Regulations is to provide for participation by support elements in the development and administration of the usual project. Such participation in the overwhelming majority of unusual projects is assured by the existence of PAPS. In the very rare case (for 1954, 2% of all projects) the magnitude or sensitivity of the project makes the Administrative Plan procedure unsuitable.

Absence of any participation by support elements, however, not only precludes those elements from exercising their responsibilities in ensuring necessary controls, but (and in the long run this is probably more important) deprives operational components of the expertise that the support elements could provide.

5. CONCLUSIONS:

There are and always will be a small number of projects which, because of their magnitude or sensitivity, defy any attempt at cataloguing for purposes of applying any standard procedures. Neither new regulations nor new standardized staffing channels can provide a solution. Activities which are sui generis must be handled as circumstances dictate.

The Director has the unquestioned legal authority to act as his mission may require.

The very magnitude or sensitivity of these unusual projects, however, makes them especially productive of the possibility of difficulty or embarrassment. More than the "ordinary" project, they must be supported with all the intellectual and experiential resources available to the Agency.

The Inspector General's recommendations (Annex A), although basically sound, may not be applicable to every project, and it is impracticable and unwise to attempt to force these few highly unusual projects into a mold. These recommendations also stress controls with (in our view) insufficient emphasis upon the assistance that support elements can render.

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6. RECOMMENDATION:

The Committee recommends that the Director sign the attached memorandum, which will accomplish the following:

- a. Each project, when submitted to the Director with a request for blanket waiver, will bear either the concurrence and comments of the Deputy Director (Support) or a statement by the Deputy Director (Plans) as to why such concurrence and comments should not be solicited.
- b. Each blanket waiver approved by the Director will be conditioned, unless he chooses to make an exception, upon the maintenance of financial records (within the limits of operational security) sufficient for audit, and upon compliance with such of the recommendations of the DD/S as the Director may approve.

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/s/
J. R. SAUNDERS
Comptroller

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CONCURRENCES:

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/s/
For Deputy Director (Plans)

4 April 1956
Date

/s/
Deputy Director (Support)

28 April 1956
Date

Attachment:
ANNEX A

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The recommendation in paragraph 6 is approved.

Signed memo to DD/S, DD/P, & Chmn PRC

ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

Date

5-5-56